

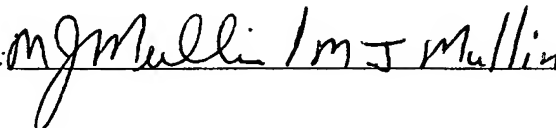
PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s)	Rudnick et al.	Examiner:	Unassigned
Serial No.:	Unassigned	Group Art Unit:	Unassigned
Confirmation No.:	Unassigned	Docket:	760-84 CON 4
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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

The present submission is being made to accompany a continuation application filed concurrently herewith, claiming priority to co-pending application Serial No. 09/977,823, filed October 15, 2001. Prior to calculating the filing fee for this application, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 6 of this paper and include an attached new drawing sheet.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.